

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 SCCT-01 MC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /073 W

----- 072472

R 171530Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7463

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BELFAST

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT EI

SUBJ: NORAIID CHARGED WITH FUND-RAISING TO BUY WEAPONS

REF: DUBLIN 2287

1. EXPANDING ON WHAT PURPORTS TO BE A NEW YORK TIMES STORY, A "SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT" FOR THE IRISH INDEPENDENT (THE LARGEST DAILY PAPER IN THE REPUBLIC) HAS WRITTEN A STORY REPORTING THAT A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF NORAIID'S COLLECTIONS IS GOING DIRECTLY FOR ARMS FOR THE PROVISIONAL IRA. CONTRADICTING NORAIID'S ASSURANCES THAT "EVERY CENT OF THE 1.2 MILLION DOLLARS OFFICIALLY REPORTED AS THE TOTAL COLLECTED SINCE 1971 HAS BEEN CHANNELLED INTO RELIEF WORK", THE ARTICLE SAYS THAT AMERICAN, IRISH AND BRITISH AUTHORITIES ARE CONVINCED THAT TWO - THREE MILLION DOLLARS MAY HAVE BEEN RAISED AND THAT 75 PERCENT OR MORE GOES TO BUY ARMS. THE REPORT ALSO CARRIES DENIALS FROM TWO NORAIID "DIRECTORS" MICHAEL FLANNERY AND MATTHEW HIGGINS. HIGGINS' DENIAL WAS THE SUBJECT OF A SECOND STORY IN THE IRISH TIMES IN WHICH HE ADDED "NOBODY CAN BE SURE OF ANYTHING". HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ONCE THE MONEY WAS RECEIVED EITHER THROUGH CHECK OR CASH, BY THE REPUBLICAN RELIEF COMMITTEE IN DUBLIN, THERE

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WERE NO DIRECT CONTROLS BY HIS GROUP OVER IT.

2. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY DOES NOT HAVE ACCESS YET TO THE
NEW YORK TIMES STORY. THE IRISH RADIO NEWSCAST HAS BEEN
CARRYING THE NORAI DENIAL BUT CURIOUSLY NAMES THE RECIPIENTS
IN DUBLIN OF THE MONEY AS THE "PRISONERS' DEPENDENTS' FUND"
RATHER THAN THE "REPUBLICAN RELIEF COMMITTEE". CURLEY

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06 JUL 2006

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